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REPORT

INFORMATION FROM

CD NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950

DATE DIST. 27 Jun 1950

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DATE
PUBLISHED 19 Apr 1950

LANGUAGE Russian

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SOURCE Bakinskiy Rabochiy, No 79, 1950.

A recent meeting of all ranks of Azerbaydzhan petroleum workers discussed the work of the petroleum industry in the first quarter 1950. Directors of Azneft', Azmorneft' (Azerbaydzhan Marine Petroleum), Azneftezavody (Azerbaydzhan Petroleum Refinery), and Aznefterazvedka (Azerbaydzhan Petroleum Prospecting) associations, Azneftmash (Azerbaydzhan Petroleum Machinery) Trust, construction organizations, Azenergo and Azgaz trusts and a number of party officials and trade unionists were present.

It was stated that a number of trusts, for example, Ordzhonikidzeneft' Trust, not only did not fulfill their socialist obligation for 1949 but did not even complete the state plan. Kaganovichneft', Molotovneft', and Artemneft' trusts failed to deliver great quantities of petroleum to the country. The petroleum workers as a whole did fulfill their obligation to deliver to the country 50,000 tons of petroleum above the plan, but if all petroleum trusts and oil fields had fulfilled their plan they could have delivered many times as much petroleum above the plan.

During the first 2 months of 1950, results were far from satisfactory because of severe winter conditions, but even in March very little was done toward making up for deficiencies of the first 2 months. During the first 3½ months of 1950, less than 200 wells were added to the total of wells. A number of wells that were counted as operating wells were actually not producing petroleum. This was also true of the Stalinneft' Trust, which is considered an outstanding trust.

A. Karasev, chief of the Azneft' Association, admitted that the petroleum industry worked unsatisfactorily for the first quarter of 1950. He said that the plan was not fulfilled for the extraction of petroleum and gas, for increase in the number of operating wells, for the sinking of wells, and for speed in drilling. He continued that the party and the government had created all the conditions necessary to successful operation of the petroleum industry and that it was the fault of the management of the Azneft' Association, petroleum trusts, oil fields, and branch enterprises that the industry was operating so poorly. Karasev referred specifically to a number of petroleum trusts. He said that

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the Buzovnyneft' Trust had been one of the outstanding ones during 1949 but that at present only one of its oil fields was meeting its quota. The Kergez-neft' Trust had also given a good performance in 1949 but was lagging in production in 1950. The Ordzhonikidzeneft' Trust was regularly failing to fulfill the state plan and its oil fields were particularly chided for failing to push efficiency measures. The whole procedure of the Azizbekovneft' Trust was censured.

A. Yakubov, chief of Azmorneft' Association, stated that enterprises of the association had not fulfilled the 1950 first-quarter plan and that they had also failed to achieve a sharp increase in geological exploratory work.

R. Ismaylov, chief of Azneftezavody Association, reported that enterprises of the association failed to reach the 1950 first-quarter norms for light petroleum products and oil and that the Refinery imeni Stalin was largely responsible for this.

D. Kazum-zade, chief of Aznefterazvedka Association, said that enterprises of the association failed to fulfill the 1950 first-quarter plan chiefly because of loss of time caused by idle periods and breakdowns.

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